General Assembly

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Agenda item 42

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/58/L.11/Rev.2 and Add.1)*]

58/124. United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international conventions dealing with the protection of cultural and natural heritage, including the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict adopted at The Hague in 1954[1] and the two Protocols thereto, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[2] and the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,[3] as well as the 1989 Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore[4] and the 2001 Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[5]

Welcoming the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by one hundred and seventy-six States parties, and noting the inscription of seven hundred and fifty-four sites on the World Heritage List,

Noting the adoption of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[6]

Mindful of the importance of protecting the world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual understanding and enrichment among cultures and civilizations,

Noting the work already undertaken to protect the world cultural and natural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including international campaigns,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[2] Ibid., vol. 823, No. 11806.

[3] Ibid., vol. 1037, No. 15511.

[4] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October–16 November 1989*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, annex I.B.

[5] Ibid., *Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, resolution 25, annex I.

[6] Ibid., resolution 24.

Recalling its resolutions 56/8 of 21 November 2001, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and 57/158 of 16 December 2002, in which it declared the Year concluded,

1. *Notes* the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization undertaken during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-second session, on 17 October 2003;[7]

3. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 October 2003;[8]

4. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in collaboration with Member States, observers, relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, other international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to continue to intensify the implementation of programmes, activities and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage;

5. *Invites* Member States and observers to continue to promote education and raise public awareness so as to foster respect for national and world cultural heritage.

75th plenary meeting
17 December 2003

[7] Ibid., *Thirty-second Session, Paris, 29 September–17 October 2003*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, resolution 32.

[8] Ibid., resolution 33, annex.